

COMMUNITY RELATIONS**School Communication with Parents**

A. The board encourages school officials to inform parents and the larger school community of events and activities as well as to provide general information about the school and student body. To this end letters, handbooks, newsletters, notices, brochures, permission slips, etc., may be sent home to parents via students.

B. Under no circumstance are school officials, including administrators and teachers, to require or encourage students on a volunteer basis to deliver any materials which:

1. advocate the election or defeat of any candidate for elective office;
2. advocate the passage or defeat of any referendum question; or
3. advocate the passage or defeat of any matter pending before a local school board, local governing body, the Virginia General Assembly, or the United States Congress.

Use of political or issue-oriented materials as part of curriculum related classroom discussions or projects is not prohibited.

Legal Reference: Through June 30, 2001

Code of Va., §22.1-278.3. Policies regarding certain activities. No later than January 1, 2001, local school boards shall develop and implement policies to ensure that public school students are not required to convey or deliver any materials that (i) advocate the election or defeat of any candidate for elective office, (ii) advocate the passage or defeat of any referendum question, or (iii) advocate the passage or defeat of any matter pending before a local school board, local governing body or the General Assembly of Virginia or the Congress of the United States.

This section shall not be construed to prohibit the discussion or use of political or issue-oriented materials as part of classroom discussions or projects or to prohibit the delivery of informational materials. (2001)

Editor's Note

See also school board policy and regulation 5-26, Political Activities of Employees.

Adopted by School Board: August 22, 2000